Delhi Development Authority for flats under the special housing scheme for retiring persons;

(b) whether deposits were made in September, 1985 by the persons who were successful in the draw;

(c) whether it is a fact that the possession of flats has not yet been given;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the possession of the flats is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Inclusion of Dhobls in the list of scheduled castes

1359. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether office-bearers of the Akhil Bharatya Dhobi Mahasangh have submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister for inclusion of Dhobis (Washermen) in the list of Scheduled Castes in seven States i.e. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territories of Chandi garh, Pondicherry, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Goa, Daman and Diu;

(b) if so, by what time Government propose to introduce the Constitution Amendment Bill in this regard; and

(c) what are the States and Union Territories where dhobis are treated as Scheduled Castes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not possible to indicate time-limit for introduction of the Bill for proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as the comments from some of the State Govts, are still awaited. However, the above proposal is being considered alongwith similar other proposals in the context of the proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Further, any amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Article 341 (2) and 342(2) of the Constitution.

(c) Dhobis (washermen) are being treated as Schedided Castes in the following States/Union Territories:—

States

(1) Assam (Dhupi, Dhobi)

(2) Bihar

(3) Himachal Pradesh (Chhimbe, Dhobi)

(4) Kerala (Vannan)

(5) Madhya Pradesh in Bhopal, Raisen and Sehore districts.

(6) Manipur (Dhupi, Dhobi).

(7) Meghalaya (Dhupi, Dhobi)

(8) Orissa (Dhoba, Dhobi)

(9) Rajasthan

(10) Tamil Nadu in Kanyakumari district and Shenkottah taluk of Tirunelveli district (Vannan).

(11) Tripura (Dhoba)

(12) U.P

(13) West Bengal (Dhoba, Dhobi)

Union *Territories*

(1) Delhi

(2) Arunachal Pradesh (Dhupi or Dhobi)

(3) Mizoram (Dhupi or Dhobi).